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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, D/G/A

DATE: 9 May 1952

FROM : Chief, Territorial Studies Section, D/G/A

SUBJECT: Political-Administrative Area Research in D/G/A

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## 1. General Objectives

The objectives of the program would be fourfold:

- a. To maintain current files on changes in political-administrative areas.
- b. To evaluate and report these changes periodically in the Map Intelligence Review and for mapping purposes.
- \* c. To evaluate current changes for the purpose of gleaning items of intelligence significance, such as shifts in population and industry, or to determine the political significance of the changes.
- d. To furnish the evaluated data to other parts of CIA and other interested government agencies. The gathering and reporting of information on changes has been kept fairly well in hand by the various sections, especially for the first and second order of divisions. Not much has been done, however, on the minor divisions. Evaluation of the data for intelligence use other than mapping has been undertaken to only a small extent up to the present. To embark on this line of research will require our staff to have a thorough knowledge of political and economic developments in their respective areas. For areas having complicated administrative systems such as the Soviet Union or Communist China, an understanding of the system and how it works is necessary. It will also be necessary to keep current on, and to be able to analyze the changes in minor civil divisions.

## 2. Objectives by Regions

- a. The completeness with which the job needs to be done and the degree of need varies from region to region. The whole job, including all 4 points of paragraph 1, should be done for the Soviet Union. The required information on the distribution of population, industry, and related items is most difficult to obtain for the Soviet Union, but because of the close relationship between the administrative structure and economic development, administrative area research might furnish the missing clues. For other countries of the Soviet orbit the intensity

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of the administrative area research would depend upon the paucity of the other types of information and the nature of the administrative structure in the particular country. The tentative list of priorities might be as follows:

- (1) China
- (2) Poland
- (3) Eastern Germany
- (4) Hungary
- (5) Czechoslovakia
- (6) Rumania
- (7) Bulgaria

b. Outside the Soviet orbit there is not much necessity for coverage of item 1c above. The political, economic or demographic implications of any administrative area change are of sufficient importance, however, to warrant routine coverage at the time notice of an administrative change is given in the MR or any other intelligence report.

### 3. Form of Record and Report

a. For Soviet Union and perhaps some of the orbit countries it will be necessary to maintain a file - probably a card file with a separate card for each unit of the lowest order (i.e., rion or selvsovet).

b. For the use of the Industrial Register, the USSR administrative boundaries from union republic down to the oblast level would be plotted on 1:1,000,000 WAC. It takes about 83 WAC sheets to cover the Soviet Union.

c. Maps at smaller, and if possible, larger scales would be prepared as requested.

\* d. Periodic intelligence reports for the USSR on subjects mentioned in 1c would be prepared.

e. For areas outside the USSR and the orbit, the material would be presented, as formerly, in the MR, as MP's or other appropriate releases.

### 4. Personnel Needs

a. Preparation and maintenance of the file mentioned in 3a and the maps referred to in 3b would require the full time of at least one person of grade GS-7 or higher. At present this person does not seem to be available in either the Territorial Studies Section or the USSR Section. In view of current priorities it might be more desirable to have this person, when secured, work in the Territorial Studies Section. In order to produce evaluated intelligence of the kind referred to in 1c

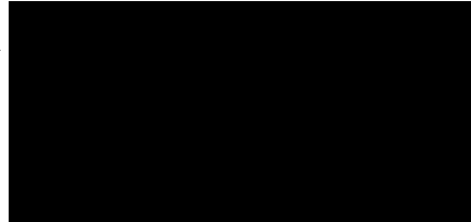
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and 3d, the closest cooperation between this person and the USSR Section would be necessary, thus entailing large demands on the time of the latter Section. It must be emphasized that this job for the Soviet Union is large. It may entail the full time of two or more persons to do it well.

b. If personnel cannot be obtained in D/G/A, consideration might be given to setting up the job as an external research project.

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